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127 HINOMARU ZUMOU

BY KAWADA

THEY CROSS PATHS AGAIN.
THE CHAMPION AND THE CHALLENGER—

鬼ノ丸相撲

KAWADA

Round 127: Onimaru Kunitsuna vs Doujikiri Yasutsuna, take two

HE OVERTURNS THE ODDS AGAINST HIM AND ATTAINS A SPECTACULAR KINBOSHI!! ONWARDS TO THE FATED FINAL MATCH...!!

T/N: STRIKING THE OPPONENT OUT OF THE RING

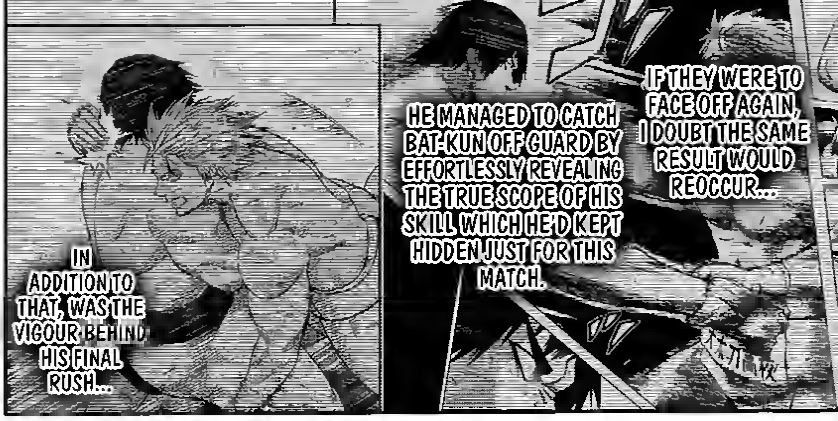
HEY, WHAT'RE YOU...
カッ
WHOOOAA GOJOO-OUU, YOU BASTARD!!
YOU GOT AN ALL-IMPORTANT VICTORY AGAINST A NATIONAL TREASURE-CLASS OPPONENT!!

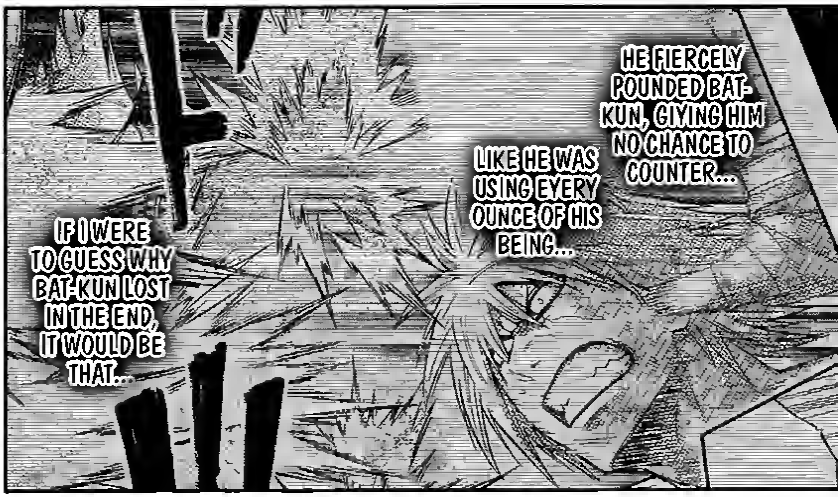
...WITH THIS, I WONDER IF I'VE AT LEAST SLIGHTLY...
MADE UP FOR MY PAST WRONG-DOINGS...
ALRIIGHT!!

...GOJOU-SAN IS AMAZING, ISN'T HE...?
.....
YUUMA-SAN...!
...I WISH WE COULD BE THERE
CELEBRATING HIS WIN WITH THE OTHERS...
THAT'S YOUTH FOR YA...
GOOD GRIEF ...

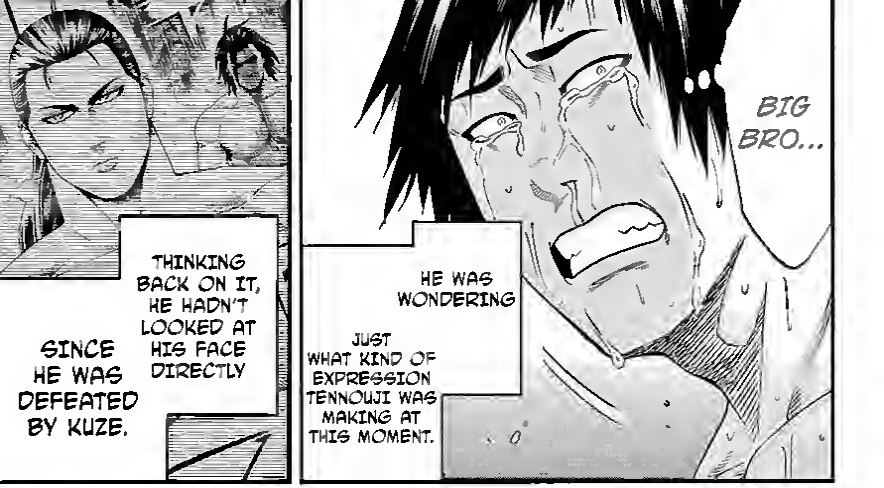
I'VE GOT TO KEEP IT TOGETHER..!
IT'S NOT OVER YET...
IT WASN'T JUST YUUMA...
...BUT
I'M SO GLAD, YUUMA...
THE REASON THEY'VE ALL WORKED SO HARD...
WAS...
TO GIVE HIM HIS CHANCE TO SHINE...!!

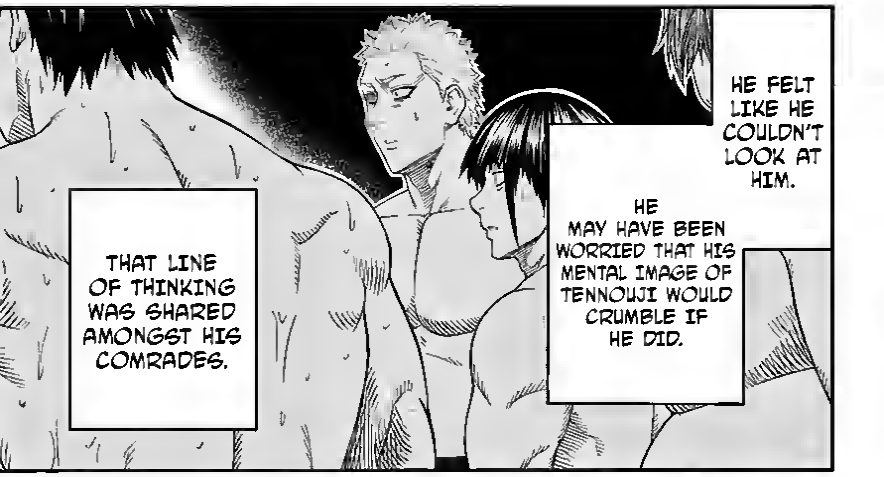
BAT...
ざわ
!
ｻﾞﾜｯ
U-
GUH
GUH ...
UGH ...
...YET GOJOU-KUN ENDED UP WINNING...
IN SIMPLE TERMS OF SUMO SKILL, BAT-KUN SHOULD HAVE TOWERED OVER HIM.
HE WAS SUPERIOR IN THE STRIKE-OUT TOO, BUT
I CAN'T BLAME HIM FOR FEELING FRUSTRATED


IN ADDITION TO THAT, WAS THE VIGOUR BEHIND HIS FINAL RUSH...
HE MANAGED TO CATCH BAT-KUN OFF GUARD BY EFFORTLESSLY REVEALING THE TRUE SCOPE OF HIS SKILL WHICH HE'D KEPT HIDDEN JUST FOR THIS MATCH.
IF THEY WERE TO FACE OFF AGAIN, I DOUBT THE SAME RESULT WOULD REOCCUR...


IF I WERE TO GUESS WHY BAT-KUN LOST IN THE END, IT WOULD BE THAT...
LIKE HE WAS USING EVERY OUNCE OF HIS BEING...
HE FIERCELY POUNDED BAT-KUN, GIVING HIM NO CHANCE TO COUNTER...

...BIG BRO...
YET FOR GOJOU-JUN, IT WAS "EVERYTHING." ALTHOUGH THAT'S JUST MY OPINION...
HE WAS JUST THINKING OF THIS MATCH AS A SIMPLE "CHECKPOINT" ON HIS JOURNEY,


BIG BRO...
HE WAS WONDERING
JUST WHAT KIND OF EXPRESSION TENNOUJI WAS MAKING AT THIS MOMENT.
THINKING BACK ON IT, HE HADN'T LOOKED AT HIS FACE DIRECTLY
SINCE HE WAS DEFEATED BY KUZE.

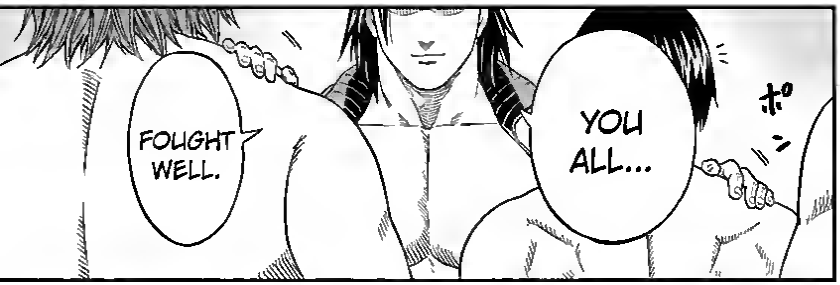

HE FELT LIKE HE COULDN'T LOOK AT HIM.
HE MAY HAVE BEEN WORRIED THAT HIS MENTAL IMAGE OF TENNOUJI WOULD CRUMBLE IF HE DID.
THAT LINE OF THINKING WAS SHARED AMONGST HIS COMRADES.

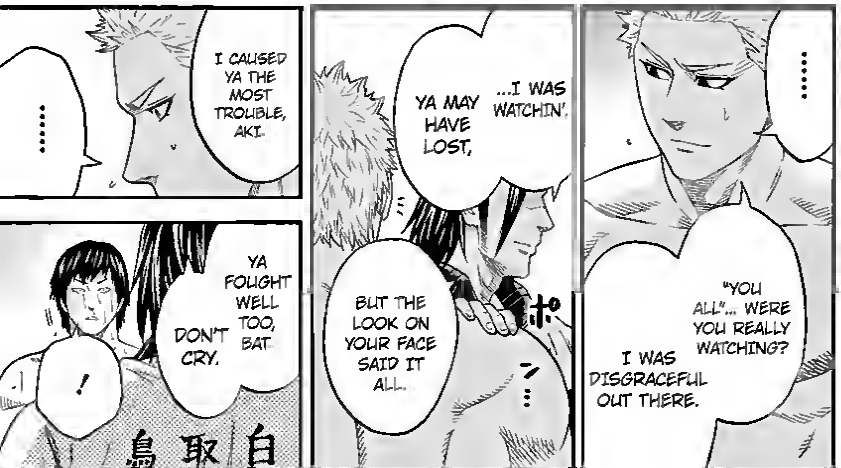
NOW THAT HE HAD LOST, THE URGE TO SEE HIS FACE WAS INTENSIFIED.
JUST WHAT KIND OF FACE
DID TENNOUJI MAKE WHEN HE LOST ...?!

...Y'ALL LOOK DAMN TERRIBLE.
WE HAVEN'T LOST YET, Y'KNOW?
IF I HADN'T LOST TA KUSANAGI...
I BETCHA YA WOULDN'T BE WORRIED AT ALL, HUH...?
...!

AND THERE HE WAS LIKE ALWAYS,
THE "YOKOZUNA" TENNOUJI.
...I KNEW I'D WORRIED YOU ALL.
..BUT I DIDN'T SAY NOTHIN'..

WAS SUPER ASSURIN'...
BECAUSE SEEIN' THE BACK OF MY TEAMMATES
WHO WERE SO DETERMINED TA GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE AGAINST KUSANAGI...

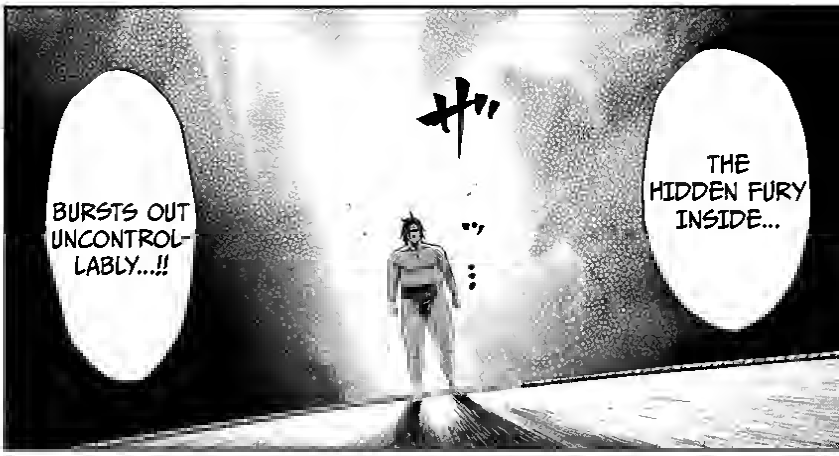

FOUGHT WELL.
YOU ALL...
ポン

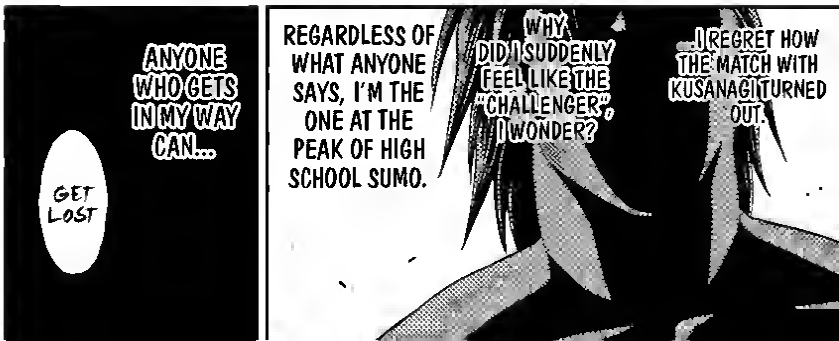

I CAUSED YA THE MOST TROUBLE, AKI.
……
YA FOUGHT WELL TOO, BAT.
DON'T CRY.
!
鳥取白
YA MAY HAVE LOST,
...I WAS WATCHIN'.
BUT THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE SAID IT ALL.
ポン
……
……
"YOU ALL"... WERE YOU REALLY WATCHING?
I WAS DISGRACEFUL OUT THERE.

THIS IS THE TEAM DIVISION.
UNTIL ALL THA MATCHES'RE OVER, STAND FIRM.
YOU'RE ALSO A KING AS A MEMBER OF HAKUROU, RIGHT?
EVEN IF YA LOSE, IT WON'T CHANGE THAT.
Y...
YES...
YOU GUYS TOO, HOW LONG'RE YA GONNA STAND THERE LOOKIN' LIKE SOMEONE'S DIED!
IT'S THE FINAL MATCH, GET EXCITED, WILL YA!

HAKUROU!
HAKUROU!
HAKUROU!
HE'S RIGHT, THEY MAY HAVE CAUGHT UP, BUT...
HAKUROU!
HAKUROU!
HAKUROU!
HAKUROU'S GENERAL IS...
...SOMEONE WHO STILL BEHAVES LIKE A YOKOZUNA...
DESPITE LOSING TO KUSANAGI...
THERE ARE PROBABLY SOME WATCHING WHO THINK IT'S JUST A BLUFF,
AND OTHER WHO THINK IT'S A JOKE.
EITHER WAY...

...AND ONCE YOU STEP INTO THE RING,
THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO HOLD IT BACK.
THE DUTY OF A YOKOZUNA...
HE'S SHOWING THE PEOPLE WHAT THEY WANT TO SEE.
THAT IS ALSO...


BURSTS OUT UNCONTROL-LABLY...!!
THE HIDDEN FURY INSIDE...


ANYONE WHO GETS IN MY WAY CAN...
GET LOST
REGARDLESS OF WHAT ANYONE SAYS, I'M THE ONE AT THE PEAK OF HIGH SCHOOL SUMO.
WHY DID I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE THE "CHALLENGER", I WONDER?
...I REGRET HOW THE MATCH WITH KUSANAGI TURNED OUT.

I WON'T LOSE TA ANYONE ANYMORE.
I'M THE "YOKOZUNA"!!!

THAT'S FINE...

ドクン…

ビリリ
UGH ...!

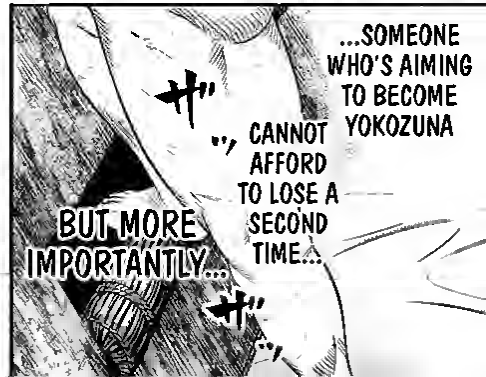
I'VE COME TO DEFEAT YOU,
AS THE "YOKOZUNA"!!
ガバ

ブク…

IT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR HARD WORK...
THAT I'M ABLE TO STAND HERE NOW.
THANKS ... GUYS.
.....
THEN YOU JUST HAVE TO WIN, RIGHT.
WHAT HE SAID.
大太刀高校
...NO, NOT JUST YOU GUYS.
THERE ARE A TON OF PEOPLE I HAVE TO THANK FOR THIS.

I CAN'T WASTE THIS OPPORTUNITY...
EVERYONE HAS GIVEN ME!!
TO THE LAST BATTLE OF THE FACEOFF AGAINST HAKUROU!!
HINOMARU ZUMOU
ROUND 127 / END

GO WIN!! USHIO!!
YEAH!!


...SOMEONE WHO'S AIMING TO BECOME YOKOZUNA
..., CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE A SECOND TIME...
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY...